

# UNCLE CHARLIE'S Fables

JULY  
NO. 4

10¢

ALL NEW AND ORIGINAL STORIES



AUTHORIZED  
A.C.M.E.

CONFORMS  
to the  
COMICS  
CODE

LEV GLEASON  
PUBLICATIONS

CHARLES  
BIRO



**WEB COMIC  
UNIVERSE.COM**



WHAT  
KIND OF  
STORIES  
ARE YOU  
GOING TO  
TELL US  
THIS TIME,  
UNCLE  
CHARLIE?

TELL  
US ONE  
LIKE  
ROBIN  
HOOD!

PLEASE  
MAKE ONE  
VERY  
ROMANTIC!

SUPPOSE  
I START WITH  
A FUNNY ONE—  
ABOUT PETER  
PESTER!

I DON'T  
CARE WHAT  
THEY'RE ABOUT—  
AS LONG AS  
YOU START  
TELLING!

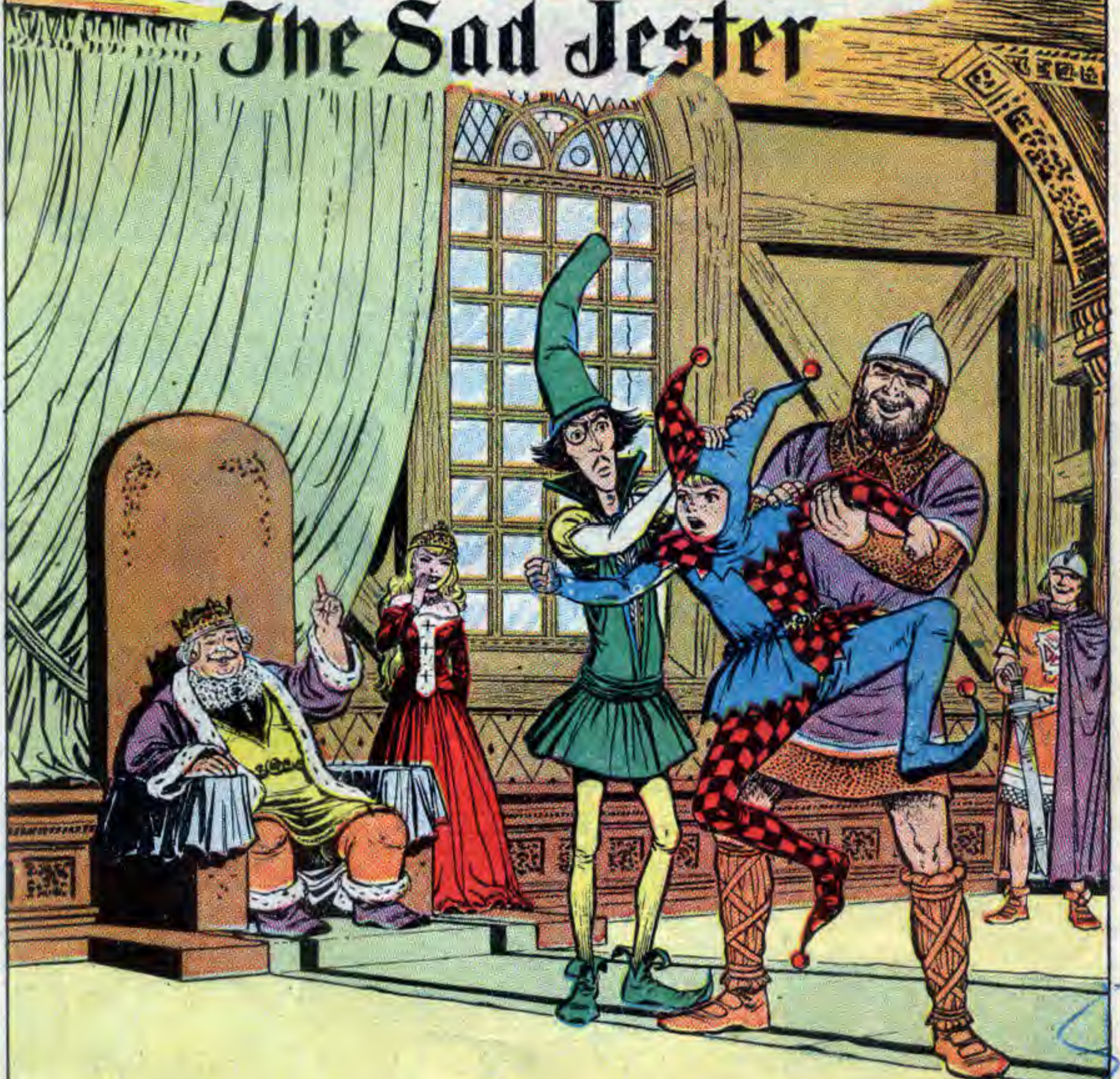


UNCLE CHARLIE'S FABLES is published bi-monthly by LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC., at 114 E. 32nd Street, New York, 16, N. Y. Abraham Schwartzman, Business Manager. Editorial, business and advertising offices at 114 East 32nd Street, New York 16, N. Y. Entry as second class matter at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879 pending. Single copies 10¢; yearly subscription in the United States \$6.00. Copyright 1952 by LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC. Printed in U. S. A., July, 1952. Vol. 1, No. 4. The publisher is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts. Manuscripts accompanied by self-addressed, stamped envelopes will be returned. SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF COVERLESS COPIES OF THIS MAGAZINE IS UNAUTHORIZED AND ILLEGAL.



# Peter Pester

## The Sad Jester

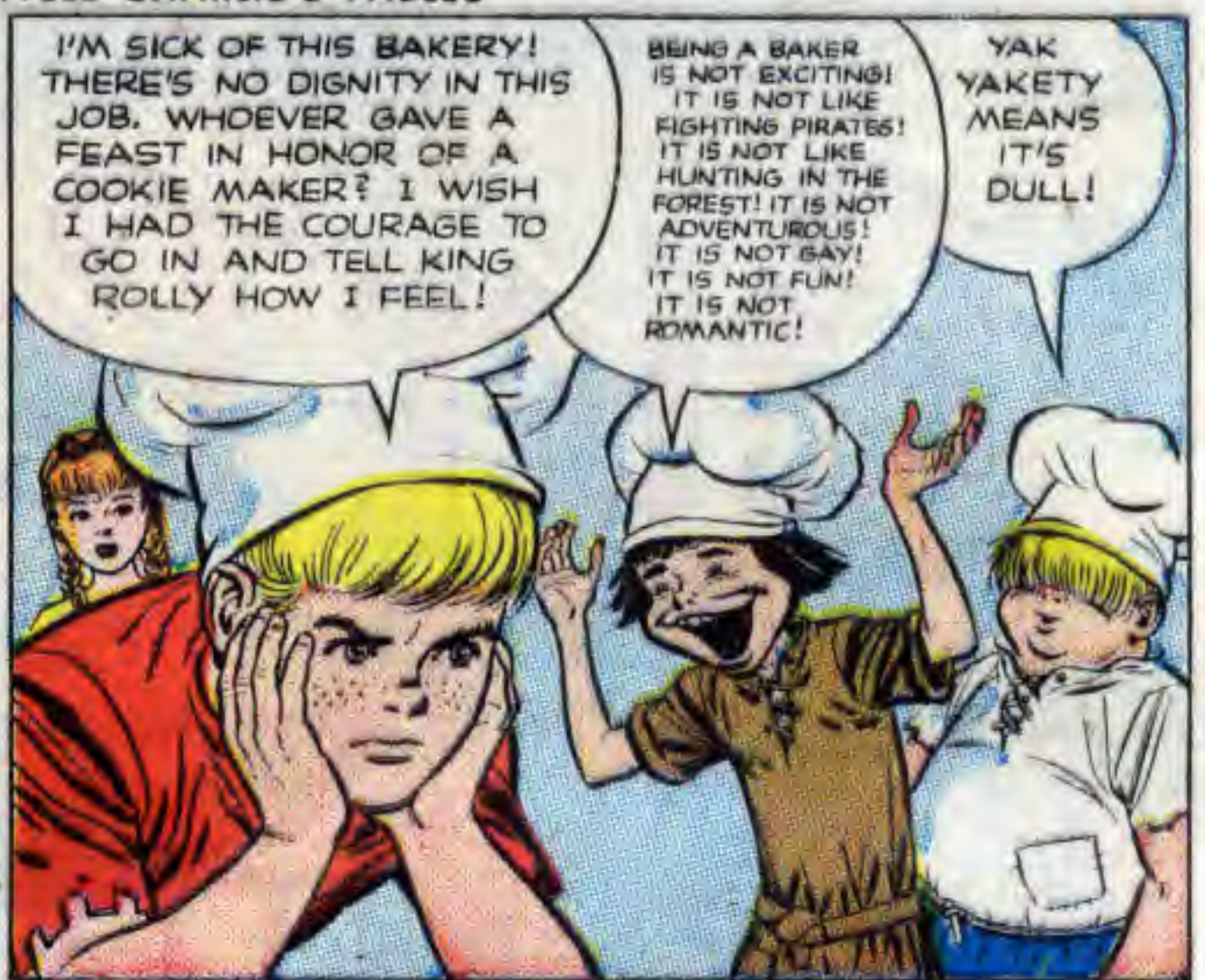


If you were Ginger Peachy, Pokey Slow, or Yak Yakety in the castle on the hill amid rolling vineyards and fields of softly swaying wheat, and you would this day be free to play the whole day through, wouldn't your throat want to burst forth

with a long scream of joy? But, not if you were Peter Pester. To Peter, the royal baker, it is just another day for wishing - wishing for excitement and glory. I will tell you about Peter's desire, and how he found it for an exciting, but brief time...

(UNCLE) CHARLIE BIRO







NOT ONLY THAT, KING ROLLY, BUT I COULD BE A DIPLOMAT! I HAVE QUITE A FLAIR FOR PRETTY PHRASES AND WITTY SAYINGS! MY FRIENDS HAVE TOLD ME THAT I COULD TALK ANYONE INTO ANYTHING!

BLESS MY SOUL! THIS GETS BETTER AND BETTER! WEEVIL, FETCH FINCHLEY, MY CHIEF AMBASSADOR! I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE, PESTER! IF YOU CAN TALK FINCHLEY INTO TAKING YOUR JOB IN THE BAKERY, YOU CAN HAVE THE POSITION!

I AM PRIVILEGED TO OFFER YOU A MOST PRIZED POSITION, MY DEAR FINCHLEY—A JOB THAT MANY MEN HAVE FOUGHT AND DIED TO OBTAIN—THAT OF **ROYAL BAKER!** THINK OF THE SPIRITUAL JOYS OF BAKING A GOOD CAKE, AND BEST OF ALL, YOU CAN EAT ALL YOU WANT!

I SAY... BY JOVE, IS THE BOY DAFT?

SIR FINCHLEY MUST NOT LIKE CAKE, BUT I HAVE NOT DEMONSTRATED MY SKILL AS AN ARCHER, KING ROLLY! POINT OUT ANY TARGET, AND I SHALL PIERCE IT WITH THIS ARROW!

VERY WELL, PETER! SEE IF YOU CAN HIT THAT ROYAL SHIELD!

I'M THE CHIEF AMBASSADOR! I'LL STAND NO MORE OF IT!

**YEEOW!**



GET HIM OUT OF HERE BEFORE HE KILLS SOMEONE! HO! HO! HE MAY NOT BE ALL HE SAYS HE IS, BUT HE IS THE FUNNIEST!

WAIT, KING ROLLY! YOU HAVE NOT LAUGHED SO HARD SINCE YOUR JESTER LEFT! I HAVE HIS OLD UNIFORM HERE! PERHAPS PETER PESTER MIGHT DO?

WEEVIL, FOR ONCE I BELIEVE YOU'RE RIGHT! COME BACK, PESTER, YOU'RE HIRED AS MY NEW COURT JESTER! PUT ON HIS UNIFORM, WEEVIL!

COURT JESTER? BUT THERE IS NO DIGNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY IN THAT JOB!

I WILL PAY YOU TEN GOLD PIECES A WEEK, PETER! YOU CANNOT REFUSE SUCH AN OFFER!

NO, I WON'T PLAY THE FOOL! I WON'T! **L... TWENTY GOLD PIECES? GOSH!**

WELL, THEN, I'LL GO TWENTY!









WHY DID YOU BRING THE MESSAGE IN HERE? DO YOU WANT US TO LOSE OUR HEADS?

BUT, PETER, IT IS ABOUT THE PRINCESS! SHE WILL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING! SHE IS GOING TO GIVE UP HER HAND! WHAT GOOD IS HER HAND WITHOUT HER ON IT?

HERE, PETER... YOU... READ... IT!



THIS IS TERRIBLE! WE WILL HAVE TO TELL THE PRINCESS AT ONCE!



WE THOUGHT YOU OUGHT TO SEE THIS, PRINCESS DENISE, BUT PLEASE DO NOT TELL KING ROLLY WHERE YOU GOT IT!

OH, HOW AWFUL! I DON'T WANT TO MARRY PRINCE HENRY! WHAT SHALL I DO?

THIS IS A PROBLEM!



OH, PETER, I CANNOT MARRY A MAN WHOM I HAVE NEVER MET! FIRST, LET US GO TELL CAPTAIN HUGO LASAR! I KNOW HE WILL HELP ME!

I HAVE A PLAN, BUT I MUST HAVE SOME FREE TIME TO MAKE IT WORK!

PETER PESTER! THE KING WISHES TO SEE YOU AT ONCE!



KING ROLLY WISHES YOU TO BE FUNNY! HE SAYS THAT YOU HAVE NOT MADE HIM LAUGH SINCE HE APPOINTED YOU HIS JESTER!

I COULD IF I HAD THE PRIVILEGES THAT YOU ALLOWED YOUR FORMER JESTER! HE WENT TO PARIS FOR NEW MATERIAL, MET PEOPLE, AND LEARNED MANY STORIES!

VERY WELL, YOU MAY GO TO PARIS, TOO! FOR THREE DAYS!



I WOULD LAY DOWN MY LIFE TO SAVE THE PRINCESS DENISE! WHAT SHALL WE DO?

NOTHING THAT FOOLISH! YAK YAKETY IS GOING TO HELP WITH MY PLAN, TOO! EVERYBODY LISTEN CAREFULLY!



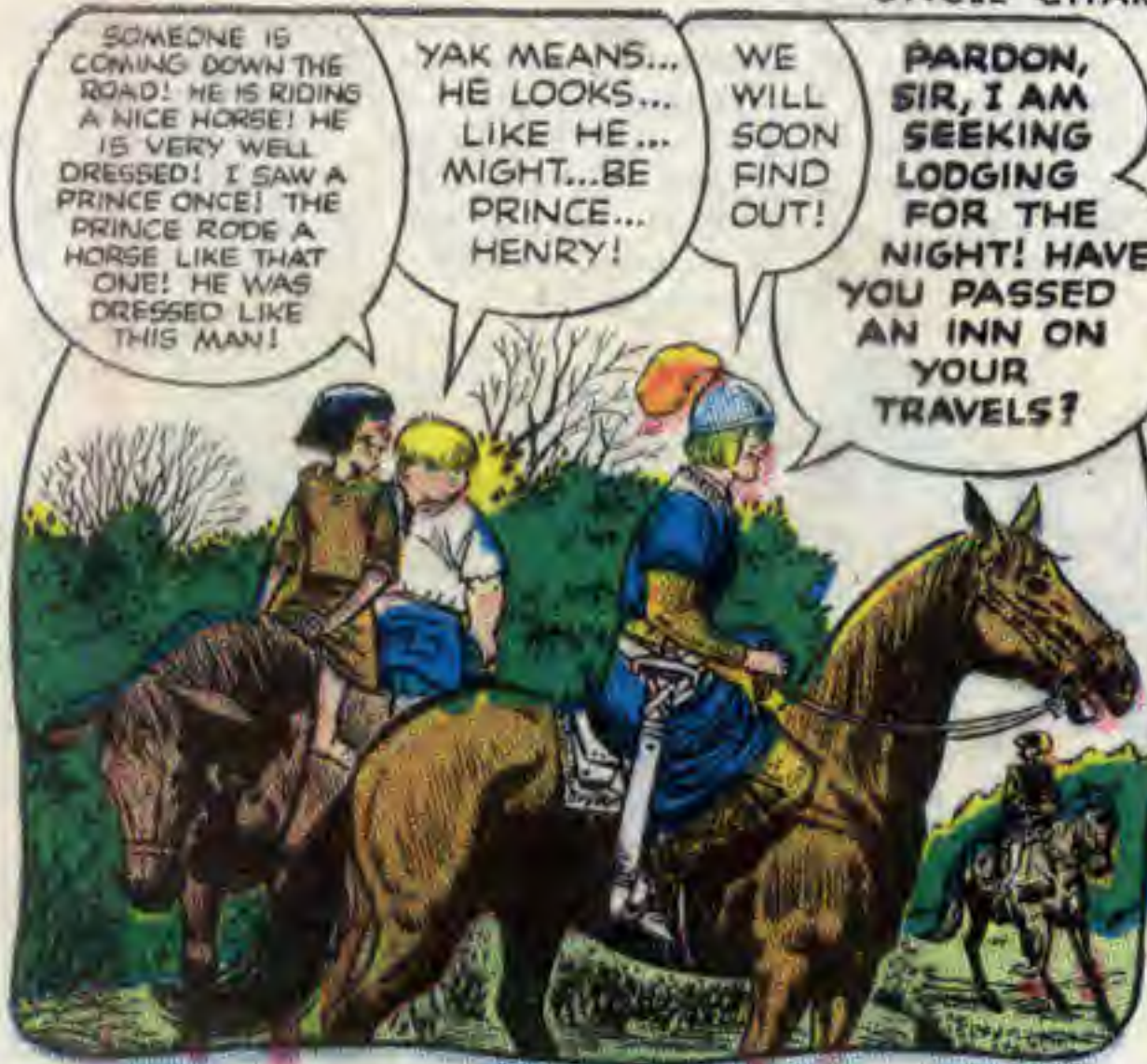
I'D BETTER BE GOING! PRINCE HENRY MUST BE ENTERING THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE KINGDOM BY NOW!

EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT FINE IF YOU CAN KEEP YAK YAKETY FROM OVERDOING IT!

HUGO, POKEY AND ME ARE GOING TO MEET PRINCE HENRY! NO ONE WILL KNOW WHAT WE ARE DOING! I AM NOT SURE WHAT WE ARE DOING MYSELF, BUT IT WILL BE FUN!

HE MEANS... EVERYTHING WILL... BE ALL RIGHT, GINGER!





SOMEONE IS COMING DOWN THE ROAD! HE IS RIDING A NICE HORSE! HE IS VERY WELL DRESSED! I SAW A PRINCE ONCE! THE PRINCE RODE A HORSE LIKE THAT ONE! HE WAS DRESSED LIKE THIS MAN!

YAK MEANS... HE LOOKS... LIKE HE... MIGHT... BE PRINCE... HENRY!

WE WILL SOON FIND OUT!

PARDON, SIR, I AM SEEKING LODGING FOR THE NIGHT! HAVE YOU PASSED AN INN ON YOUR TRAVELS?

WHY, YES, INDEED! I JUST PASSED A SPLENDID INN, BUT A QUARTER MILE BACK! COME, I WILL SHOW YOU!

THAT IS VERY KIND OF YOU, SIR! I WOULD BE HONORED IF YOU WOULD JOIN ME IN A GROG OR TWO!

WHAT A COINCIDENCE THAT YOU ARE FROM GLADIOLA— I AM GOING THERE MYSELF! MY MISSION IS A MOST HAPPY ONE! I AM TO MARRY THE FAIREST MAIDEN IN ALL THE KINGDOM, THE PRINCESS DENISE! SHE IS SAID TO BE BEAUTEOUS BEYOND COMPARISON!

I AM AFRAID YOU ARE BEING TRICKED, MY FRIEND! HAD YOU EVER MET HER, I WOULD NOT SPEAK, BUT I MUST WARN YOU THAT HER UNCLE HAS BEEN TRYING TO MARRY HER OFF FOR YEARS! PRINCESS DENISE IS THE HOMELIEST GIRL IN THE ENTIRE KINGDOM!

WHY, I... I DON'T UNDERSTAND! HER UNCLE SENT US THIS DRAWING! SHE APPEARS MOST LOVELY!

I DO NOT WISH TO INFLUENCE YOU, PRINCE HENRY, BUT THAT PICTURE HAS BEEN SAHM! SLIGHTLY EXAGGERATED! IF THE PRINCESS LOOKED LIKE THAT PICTURE, YOU WOULD BE FORTUNATE INDEED, BUT I AM AFRAID THAT SHE DOES NOT!

YOU HAVE ALARMED ME GREATLY, SIR HUGO! PERHAPS I HAVE BEEN HASTY! IF THERE WAS ONLY SOME WAY THAT I COULD SEE HER BEFORE THE MARRIAGE...

I CAN HELP YOU, PRINCE HENRY! SHE WILL BE IN HER PRIVATE GARDEN NOW! I COULD TAKE YOU THERE! FINISH YOUR ALE, AND WE WILL GO!

YOU HEARD HIM! YAK! LET'S GO!

THERE SHE IS NOW! YOU CAN INTRODUCE YOURSELF, AND IF YOU DO NOT LIKE HER, IT WILL NOT BE TOO LATE TO ESCAPE!

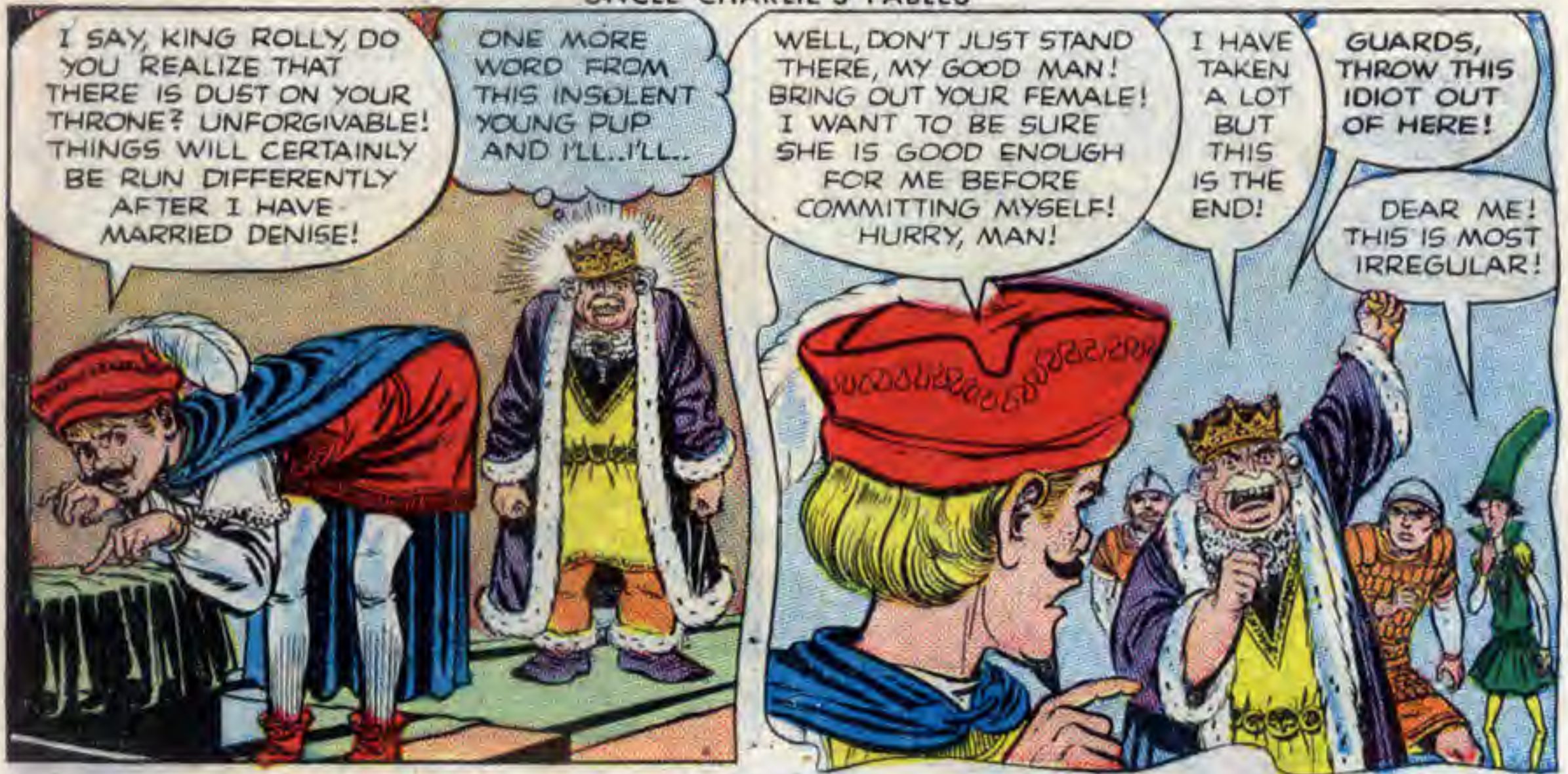
I SHALL BE ETERNALLY IN YOUR DEBT, SIR HUGO! HMM... SHE LOOKS VERY NICE FROM HERE! PERHAPS IT WILL NOT BE SO BAD AFTER ALL!

GUESS WHO THIS IS, PRINCESS DENISE! HEE! HEE!









I SAY, KING ROLLY, DO YOU REALIZE THAT THERE IS DUST ON YOUR THRONE? UNFORGIVABLE! THINGS WILL CERTAINLY BE RUN DIFFERENTLY AFTER I HAVE MARRIED DENISE!

ONE MORE WORD FROM THIS INSOLENT YOUNG PUP AND I'LL...I'LL...

WELL, DON'T JUST STAND THERE, MY GOOD MAN! BRING OUT YOUR FEMALE! I WANT TO BE SURE SHE IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME BEFORE COMMITTING MYSELF! HURRY, MAN!

I HAVE TAKEN A LOT BUT THIS IS THE END!

GUARDS, THROW THIS IDIOT OUT OF HERE!

DEAR ME! THIS IS MOST IRREGULAR!



IF I SEE YOUR FACE AROUND HERE AGAIN, I'LL SET THE DOGS ON YOU! I SHOULD DECLARE WAR ON YOUR COUNTRY!



WHAT CAUSED ALL THAT SHOUTING, UNCLE ROLLY?

H...HELLO, DENISE, THAT WAS...ER...PRINCE HENRY, I'VE...UH... DECIDED THAT YOU SHOULDN'T BE FORCED TO MARRY HIM AFTER ALL!



PETER! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DID IT, BUT MY MARRIAGE TO PRINCE HENRY HAS BEEN CALLED OFF! I SHALL BE FOREVER IN YOUR DEBT!

I GUESS I CAN GO IN NOW AND TELL HIM THAT I'VE RETURNED FROM PARIS!

AW, DENISE...

I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT YOU ARE BACK FROM PARIS, PETER! WELL, DID YOU FIND ANY NEW JOKES? I CERTAINLY HOPE SO—I'M IN THE MOOD FOR A GOOD LAUGH!

WHY, I...ER... CERTAINLY DID PICK UP A LOT, YOUR MAJESTY! YES, INDEED! IT WAS SURELY A WORTHWHILE TRIP!







DID YOU HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY WITH THEIR LANGUAGE?

LANGUAGE? WHY, UH... NO...NOT ALL ALL! THEY ALL SPOKE VERY CLEARLY! AND THEY TREATED ME LIKE A PRINCE, KING ROLLY!



I GUESS YOU HAD AN OPPORTUNITY, TO SEE A GOOD MANY SIGHTS WHILE YOU WERE THERE! HOW DID YOU LIKE THE COLISEUM...AND THE PYRAMIDS?

COLISEUM? WHY, UH...I BELIEVE IT WAS CLOSED FOR REPAIRS! BUT I SAW THE PYRAMIDS ALL RIGHT-AND THEY CAN CERTAINLY... UH...RUN FAST!



THAT PROVES IT! YOU WEREN'T THERE AT ALL! WAIT A MINUTE! IT'S BECOMING VERY CLEAR! I THOUGHT THAT VOICE SOUNDED FAMILIAR-THAT WAS YOU, POSING AS PRINCE HENRY! WHAT HAPPENED TO PRINCE HENRY?

UH...I TOLD HIM THAT WE WERE HAVING A SMALL-POX EPIDEMIC AND EVERYONE WAS DYING LIKE FLIES! HE TURNED AROUND AND RAN FOR HOME!



I WILL HAVE YOU THROWN IN IRONS! DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU HAVE DONE? THE KING OF MARITANIA WILL THINK I DID THIS ON PURPOSE! YOU...YOU...

WAIT, UNCLE ROLLY! I ASKED PETER TO DO IT! YOU WOULDN'T REALLY WANT ME TO MARRY A MAN I'D NEVER MET-YOU'RE TOO GOOD AND KIND TO DO A CRUEL THING LIKE THAT!



AH, PERHAPS YOU ARE RIGHT, DENISE! HOWEVER, I STILL REFUSE TO LET YOU THROW YOURSELF AWAY ON A MERE KNIGHT! YOU MUST MARRY SOMEONE OF ROYAL BLOOD!

WELL GET BACK TO THE BAKERY, PESTER! YOU ARE FIRED AS MY JESTER!

I'M LEAVING, YOUR MAJESTY!



I CAN NEVER THANK YOU ALL ENOUGH!

IT WAS GOOD TO FOOL PRINCE HENRY! I LAUGHED VERY MUCH! GINGER PEACHY WAS GLAD FOR YOU! FOKEY SLOW ALSO HAD GOOD JOY! PETER LIKED FOOLING KING ROLLY!

YAK YAKETY MEANS...IT WAS... FUN... PRINCESS... DENISE...

Hi mankin

The End





Listen closely  
to my tale of  
a young orphan  
girl, whose  
courage and  
patience brought  
her the greatest  
reward a girl  
in those olden  
times could  
receive...  
(UNCLE) CHARLIE  
BIRO

# PRISCILLA'S PATIENCE

WHAT DO  
YOU THINK,  
CHILD? IS THIS  
AGREEABLE?

YOUR HONOR,  
I AM THE ONLY  
LIVING KIN OF THIS  
ORPHAN GIRL WHO  
STANDS BEFORE YOU!  
I FEEL IT IS MY DUTY  
AS HER SECOND  
COUSIN TO ACCEPT  
THE GUARDIANSHIP OF  
HER UNTIL SHE IS  
OLD ENOUGH TO TAKE  
OVER THE OPERATING  
OF THE INN SHE IN-  
HERITED FROM HER  
POOR, OLD FATHER!







OH, YES, COUSIN OTTO IS SO KIND TO OFFER TO HELP ME! EXCEPT FOR HIM I HAVE NO BLOOD RELATION!

THEN HE SHALL BE YOUR GUARDIAN! I WILL SIGN THE PAPERS AT ONCE!



I SCARCELY KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU FOR BEING SO KIND TO ME, COUSIN OTTO! PLEASE LEND ME YOUR HAND!

GET DOWN YOURSELF! AND CARRY MY BAGS IN! NOW THAT I'M YOUR GUARDIAN, YOU WILL EARN YOUR KEEP!



NOW! SET THOSE BAGS IN THE CORNER AND BUILD A FIRE IN THE STOVE! I WISH YOU TO PREPARE MY SUPPER AT ONCE! AFTER YOU FINISH YOU CAN WASH MY SHIRTS AND SCRUB THE FLOORS!



AYE, OTTO SCORPI IS INDEED A SHARP LAD! HE'S SET HIMSELF UP AS GUARDIAN OF THAT GIRL COUSIN OF HIS WHO INHERITED THE DAPPLED HORSE INN AND NOW—

THEN LET US BE OFF TO CONGRATULATE HIM AND DRINK A BIT OF HIS GROG!

HO, HO—HE'S ALL BUT TAKEN IT OVER!



HO! FILL UP MY MUG AGAIN, YOUNG WENCH!

THINGS HAVE GONE BADLY SINCE YOU'VE BEEN AWAY, OTTO! POOR PICKINGS, INDEED! SCARCELY A RICH TRAVELER IN MONTHS!

HUSH! WE WILL TALK OF THAT LATER! I THINK LUCK WILL CHANGE NOW THAT I HAVE THIS INN!

Meanwhile, at the palace of King Richard...



PHILLIP, MY SON, I CANNOT TELL YOU HOW HAPPY I AM THAT TOMORROW YOU WILL MARRY THE FAIR ALTHEA, THE DAUGHTER OF MY DEAREST FRIEND, THE DUKE OF ELWOOD! THOUGH YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN HER, I ASSURE YOU SHE IS BOTH RICH AND BEAUTIFUL!

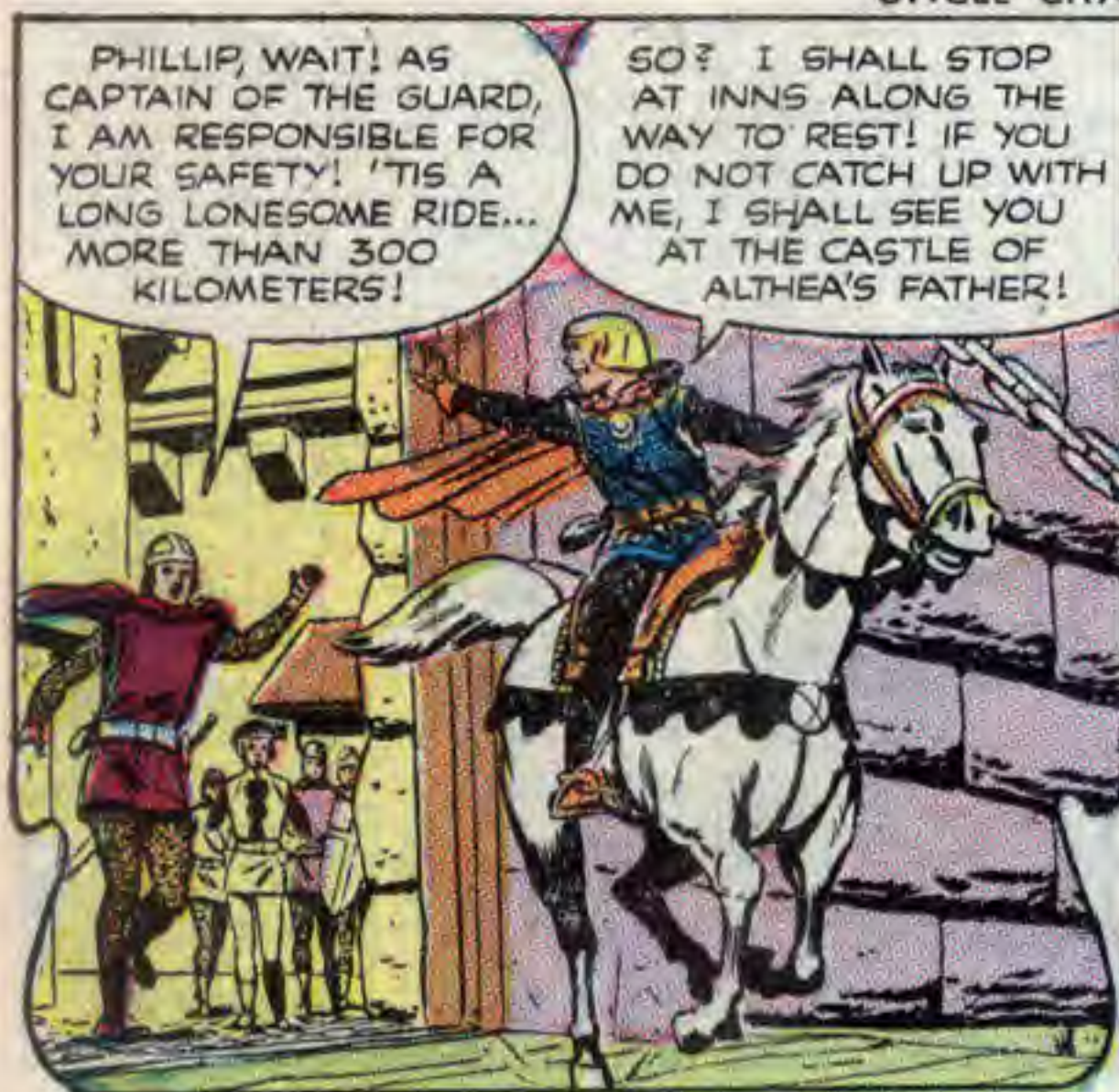
I CAN SCARCELY WAIT TO BEHOLD HER FAIR FACE! INDEED I PLAN TO LEAVE WITHIN THE HOUR!



YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS, MY MEN WHO ARE TO GUARD YOU, WILL NOT BE READY TO LEAVE FOR ANOTHER HOUR! I KNOW YOU ARE IMPATIENT, BUT FEAR NOT, WE WILL HAVE AMPLE TIME TO REACH THE DUKE'S CASTLE BEFORE MORNING!

I CANNOT WAIT! I AM TOO RESTLESS—TOO EAGER TO BE OFF! I SHALL GO ON AHEAD OF YOU!

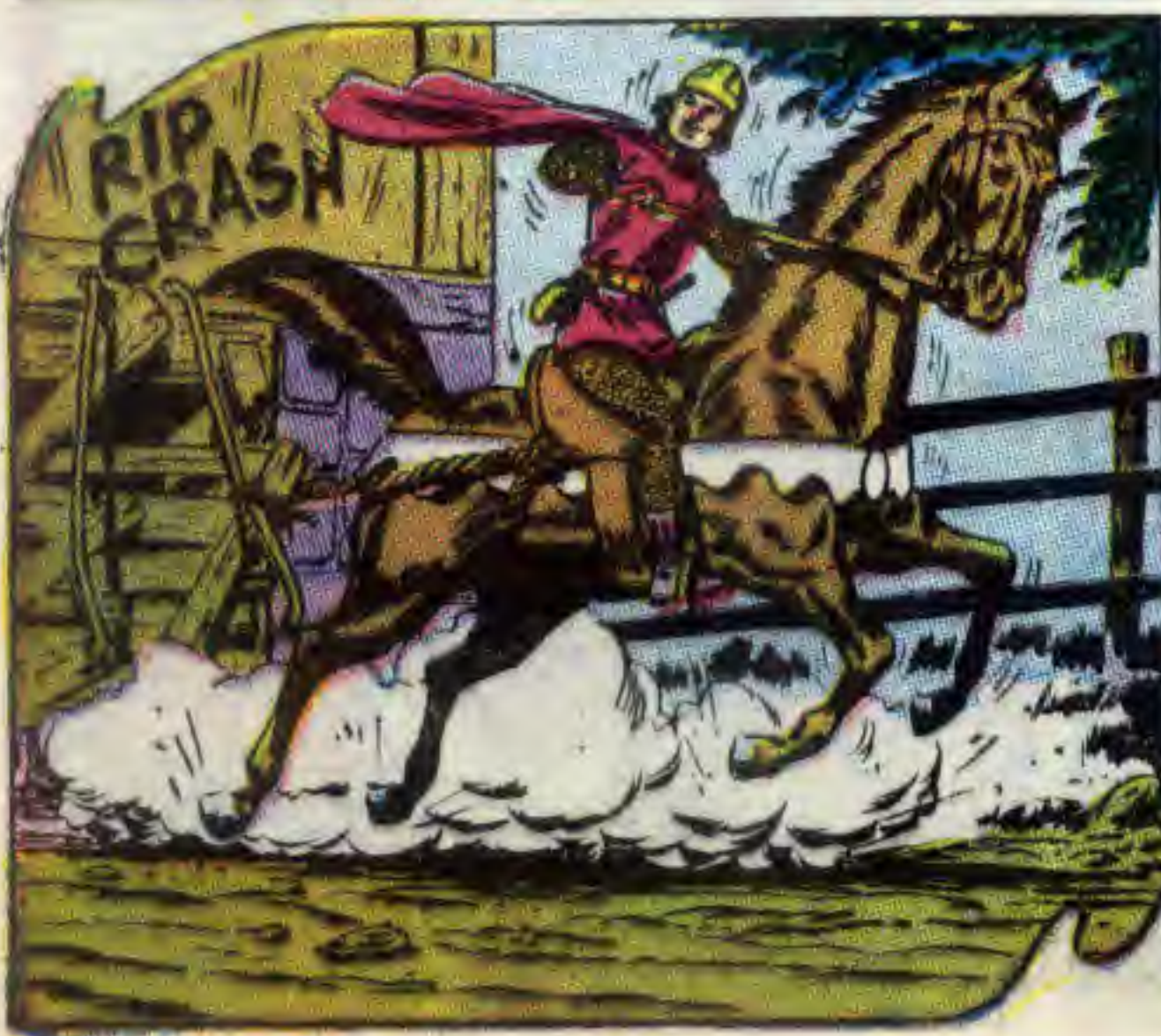
























LAUGH  
IF YOU WILL,  
YOUR MAJESTY!  
I SHALL YET  
WIN THE WAGER!  
SEE IF I  
DON'T!

FATHER!  
WHAT IS  
THE EXPLANA-  
TION OF THIS  
FOOLISH-  
NESS?

AH...HA...HA...HA!  
COME AND WATCH, PRINCESS!  
I HAVE WAGERED THIS  
SERVANT A SACK OF GOLD  
AGAINST THIS MONTH'S WAGES  
HE CANNOT STAND ON  
HIS HEAD TWO HOURS!

Not even during once-upon-a-time  
was a king's life always easy.  
Though many ruled their people  
wisely, some had difficulty ruling  
themselves, for few of a king's  
subjects would dare correct him,  
much less scold him. My story  
about an unwise king begins  
"once upon a time long before  
soda pops, comic books and  
presidents..."

(UNCLE) CHARLIE BIRO

# A KING'S SECOND CHANCE

GOODNESS! WILL  
YOU EVER STOP THAT  
SILLY BETTING?  
I'LL PUSH THAT  
DROLIO OVER!

SILENCE,  
PRINCESS!



Twenty-one minutes later...







YES, BUT  
HAD YOU WON  
YOU WOULD  
DOUBTLESS BE  
DEAD!

WHAT?  
YOU MEAN...  
OH... OH...

THE  
KING HAS  
FAINTED!



AS LORD PRIVY  
TREASURER, I AM GRAVELY  
CONCERNED OVER THE  
CONDITION OF THE ROYAL  
TREASURY! PUMMEY, YOU'RE  
KING BARNABY'S CHIEF  
ADVISOR! IS THERE  
NOTHING YOU CAN DO  
TO STOP HIS BETTING?

HA! THE MORE I PLEAD  
THE MORE HE BETS!  
HIS WAGERS ARE  
RUINING THE COUNTRY!  
SEE HOW THE  
KINGDOM HAS  
DWINDED!

Later, as Sir Bolton walks  
past the palace wall...



I HEAR  
THE SOUND  
OF A GIRL  
WEeping!

SOB!  
SOB!



OH, SIR  
BOLTON!  
YOU  
STARTLED  
ME!

METHOUGHT  
I HEARD YOU  
CRYING, FAIR  
PRINCESS! IS  
THERE ANYTHING  
I CAN DO?



NAY, I FEEL  
NOBODY CAN HELP!  
IT'S MY FATHER'S  
CONSTANT BETTING!  
THE KINGDOM IS  
GOING TO RACK AND  
RUIN! SOON THE  
ROYAL TREASURY  
WILL BE BANKRUPT  
AND THE KINGDOM  
WILL COLLAPSE!

PRINCESS  
DIANE, IT  
GRIEVES  
ME SORELY  
TO SEE  
YOU UN-  
HAPPY!  
I'VE LOVED  
YOU EVER  
SINCE I  
FIRST BE-  
HELD YOU!



DEAR DIANE, MY  
THOUGHTS ARE WITH  
YOU CONSTANTLY!  
DARE I HOPE  
SOME DAY TO HAVE  
YOU FOR MY  
BRIDE?

OH, YES! YES,  
SIR BOLTON! I  
WILL INDEED MARRY  
YOU! BUT FIRST,  
WE MUST DO SOME-  
THING ABOUT MY  
FATHER! I CANNOT  
MARRY UNTIL  
THEN!



AHH...  
ALREADY I  
FEEL BETTER!  
MY HEART  
TELLS ME I  
CAN TRUST  
YOU!

YOUR FATHER'S FATAL  
HABIT WILL NEVER BE BROKEN  
UNTIL HE HAS LEARNED TO  
WANT! WITH YOUR HELP I THINK  
I CAN CURE HIM! BE PATIENT!  
I SHALL SUCCEED AND RETURN  
TO CLAIM YOU BY THE  
NEXT FULL MOON!





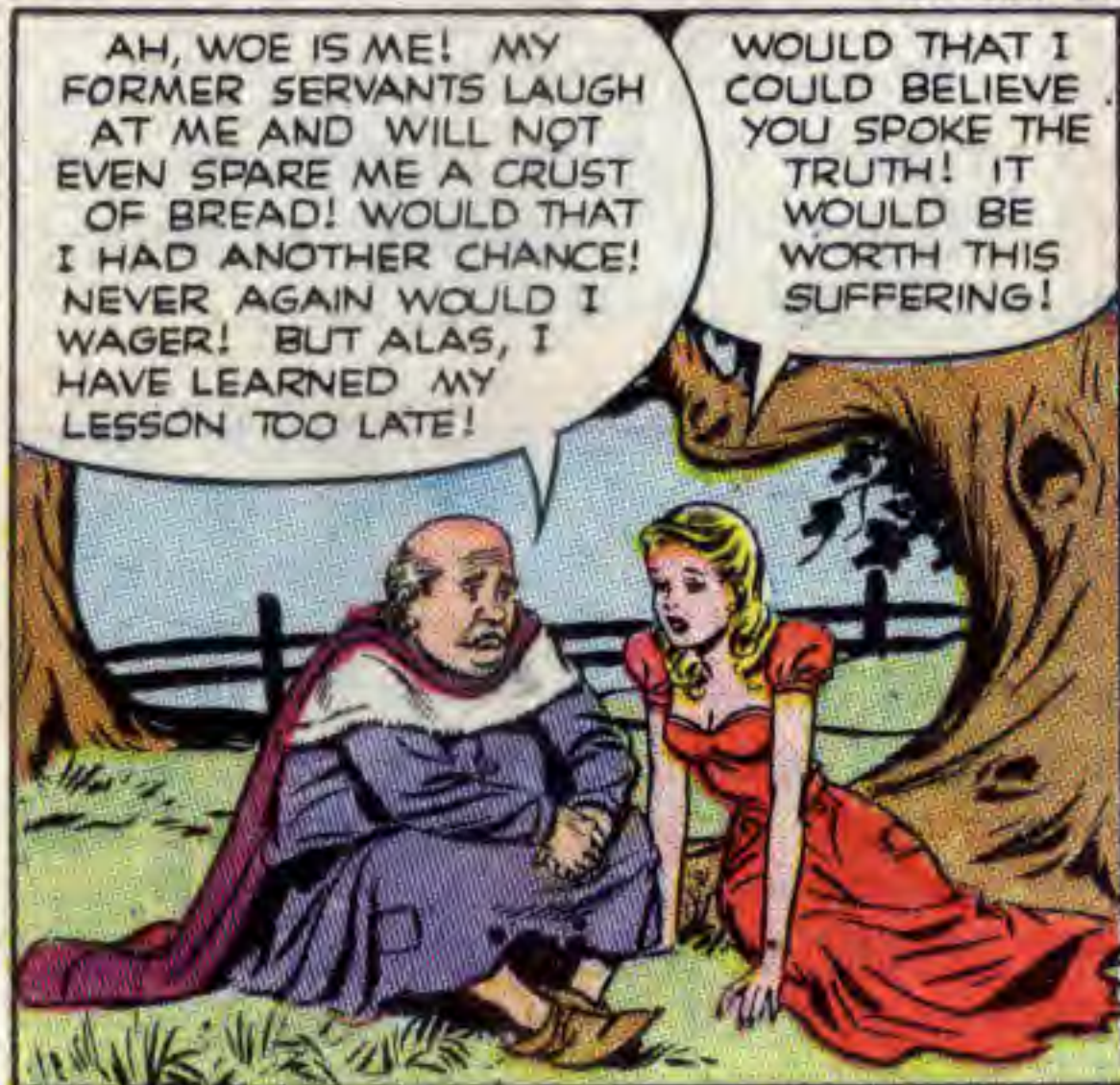












And to this very day in the kingdom of Fortunaria not a single person has been known to make the most simple wager, for King Barnaby's edict is still written into the law of the realm!

The End



# A BIG DAY FOR SQUIRRELS

It is not easy to please yourself and please others, too but it *can* be done! Here's how a bright little squirrel with a problem used his imagination and produced such a good solution that his duties became a pleasure to himself and a wonderful surprise to all the squirrels in the forest! . . .



Cyril had too many outside responsibilities to worry about winter food supplies. Cyril was the captain of the baseball team and on top of that, the best pitcher the squirrels had ever had. Cyril's mother kept after him to gather nuts and bring them home for the winter's supply but baseball was much more important to Cyril. The squirrels were to play the chipmunks on Saturday and that was to be an important game.

One morning at breakfast, Mother Squirrel decided to settle the matter with Cyril once and for all.

"Cy," she said, "you know we must have food for the winter. If we all don't gather it now we may run out of food and have nothing to eat."

"I know, Mother," answered Cyril as he stuffed his mouth full of cereal.

"And Cy," she continued sternly, "if you can't play baseball and gather nuts too, I'm afraid you'll have to stop playing baseball!"

"Oh, Mother, no," Cyril choked on the cereal. "The most important game is coming up on Saturday — with the chipmunks."

Cyril left the table dejectedly. He knew his mother was right, but he also knew it was important that he pitch for the team on Saturday. As he walked toward the baseball field, his bushy tail drooped, his eyes lost their sparkle and even his alert little ears seemed to be at half-mast. Instead of leaping from branch to branch all the way, he walked slowly along the ground. Lost in his thoughts he approached the field before he knew it and was interrupted by a yell, "Hi, Cy!"

Cyril looked up, startled. Here were the boys waiting for him. "Hi," he muttered and sat down dejectedly with his friends.

"What's the matter?" sympathetically asked one of the squirrels.

"Well," sighed Cyril, "unless I can figure out how to gather nuts and play baseball at the same time, I'm going to have to give up baseball."

"Your mother's been after you, I suppose," guessed one squirrel.

"You're right," answered Cyril. "Say, how do you fellahs manage?"

"We all run into the same problem," answered another squirrel, waving his tail in mutual understanding. "I've been lucky, so far."

"I haven't," continued another. "My mother got after me last night. And I haven't figured out what to do yet."

"Maybe we could all gather nuts and not practice one day," suggested one squirrel eagerly.

"Yessss," mused Cyril, "but we need every minute of practice, until Saturday anyway."

The circle of squirrels looked dejected. Then another





one piped up, "Maybe we can get up real early for a couple of days."

"Yesss," agreed Cyril again. "But we can't cut our sleep short before this game, that's breaking training. Wait! I have an idea!" Ears perked up, eyes shone, as Cyril pieced together his idea. "First we have to talk to the chipmunks, then we have to get some paint and paper."

The problem solved, the squirrels warmed up for Saturday's game. Cyril had never been in better pitching form. Even Stan, the black sheep of the team, knocked a home run. After practice they all went off in their separate directions. Cyril went to see the captain of the chipmunk team and several others went after paper and paint to distribute among the squirrels.

The next morning at breakfast, Cyril was confronted by his father. "Cy," said Father Squirrel gruffly, as he poured out another cup of coffee, "your mother tells me you haven't been gathering nuts but have been playing baseball instead."

"Yes, Father," answered Cyril meekly. "But, Father, just give me till Saturday and I promise I'll bring home more nuts than I could gather in a week."

"How can you gather nuts on Saturday? That's the day of the game," said Father Squirrel, looking very doubtful.

"Please, Father," pleaded Cyril, "just give me till Saturday."

Before Cyril went out to baseball practice he climbed into his room in the tree and brought out several large posters. In good spirits today he went his usual way, flying from branch to branch until he scurried down onto the practice field. All the other squirrels had brought their posters and they decided to run through the forest and hang them at strategic places. On rocks, on trees, on bushes, even at the entrances to the homes of the badgers, skunks and gophers, they hung the posters which read; ALL RODENT GAME, SATURDAY, SQUIRRELS VS. CHIPMUNKS, 2 P. M. ADMISSION, ONE NUT. RESERVED SEATS, TWO NUTS.

Saturday came, the day of the big game, the event of the season. All the little animals of the forest attended. The sisters and little brothers of the squirrels and the chipmunks attended to the seating and collected the admission. Reserved seats in the overhanging branches were well filled with the older squirrels, chipmunks and some of the birds.

The stimulation of the large, enthusiastic crowd drove the squirrels to victory. Cyril was the hero of the day. Never had the crowd cheered so and never had Cyril pitched so well, striking out chipmunk after chipmunk. The final score was 12-3, the squirrel's victory.

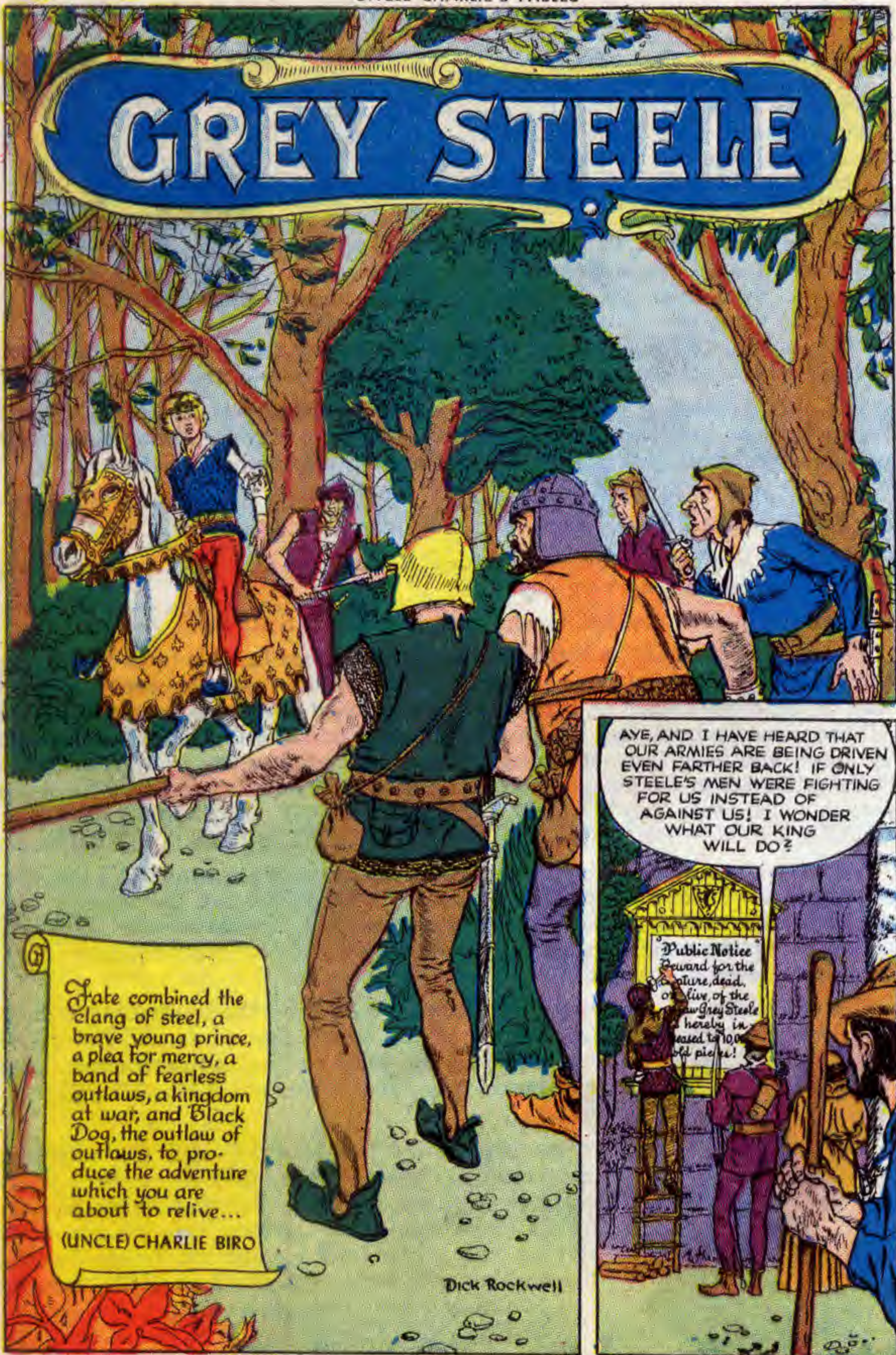
Members of the two teams divided the admission nuts and there were so many they all needed help to carry them home. Cyril's mother and father proudly helped their son, each carrying two baskets overflowing with winter food. Mother and Father Squirrel marched proudly home with the hero of the day and sufficient food for the long, cold winter.

THE END





# GREY STEELE



AYE, AND I HAVE HEARD THAT OUR ARMIES ARE BEING DRIVEN EVEN FARTHER BACK! IF ONLY STEELE'S MEN WERE FIGHTING FOR US INSTEAD OF AGAINST US! I WONDER WHAT OUR KING WILL DO?

Fate combined the clang of steel, a brave young prince, a plea for mercy, a band of fearless outlaws, a kingdom at war, and Black Dog, the outlaw of outlaws, to produce the adventure which you are about to relive...

(UNCLE) CHARLIE BIRO

Dick Rockwell



Public Notice  
Reward for the  
capture, dead,  
or alive, of the  
outlaw Grey Steele  
hereby in-  
creased to 10,000  
gold pieces!

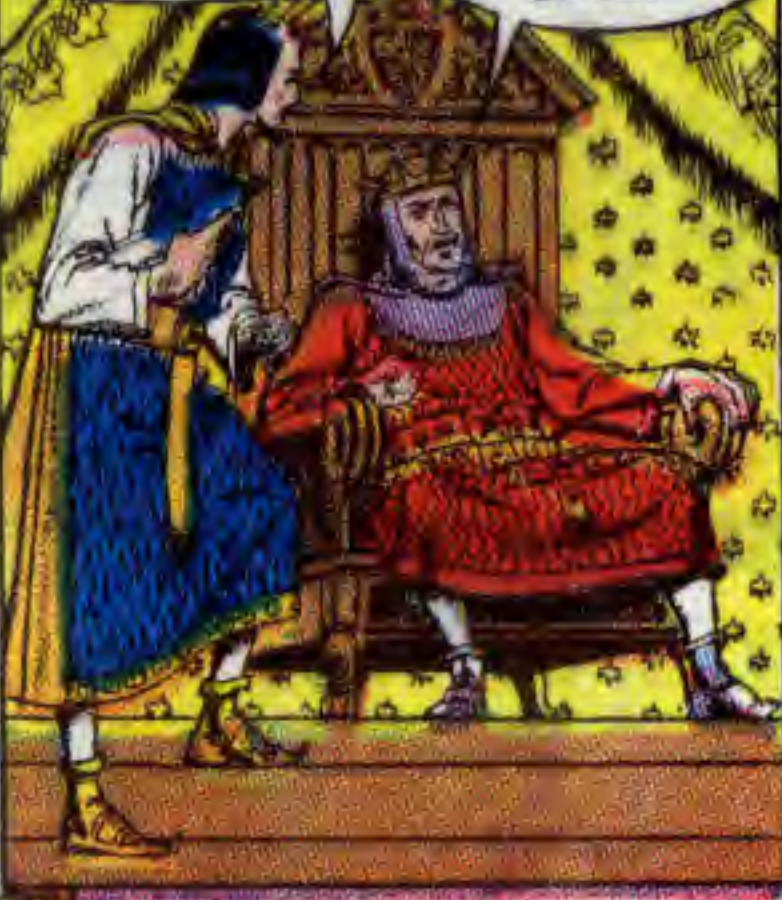


# UNCLE CHARLIE'S FABLES

Meanwhile, deep in the forest...

THERE IS BAD NEWS, YOUR MAJESTY! OUR ARMIES IN THE NORTH HAVE BEEN DEFEATED, AND ARE FALLING BACK ON ALL SIDES! REPLACEMENTS ARE NEEDED DESPERATELY!

ALL MY REMAINING TROOPS ARE GUARDING THE KINGDOM AGAINST GREY STEELE! IF WE COULD BUT CAPTURE HIM! SOMETHING MUST BE DONE AT ONCE!



DON'T KILL ALL THE GAME IN THE FOREST, BRUCE! SAVE ENOUGH FOR US TO EAT NEXT YEAR!

YOU KNOW I WOULDN'T WANT TO OUTDO MY BIG BROTHER, GREY! BUT TELL YOUR COOKS TO BE READY FOR A WILD BOAR OR TWO!

While back at the castle...

YOUR FATHER WOULD HAVE A WORD WITH YOU, PRINCE LANCE... AH... EXCELLENT SHOOTING!



IT'S NOT MUCH FUN THOUGH, WITH NO ONE TO COMPETE AGAINST!

FATHER, I WAS JUST COMING TO SEE YOU! I HAVE A PLAN FOR YOUR OUTLAW PROBLEM! WHY NOT PARDON THEM IN EXCHANGE FOR THEIR JOINING THE ARMY?

NO! NOT AFTER THE CRUEL MURDER OF MY BROTHER! BESIDES, STEELE WOULD NEVER AGREE!



BUT STEELE HAS NEVER BEEN ACCUSED OF CRUELTY AND MURDER! SOMEONE ELSE MUST HAVE SLAIN MY UNCLE!

SOME OF HIS MEN WERE SEEN, LANCE—I CANNOT FORGIVE MURDER—EVEN TO DEFEND OUR COUNTRY!



PERHAPS FATHER IS RIGHT, BUT I MUST TRY MY PLAN! I ONLY HOPE THAT I CAN FIND GREY STEELE!



Suddenly, the young prince sees a tragedy about to happen...

WHAT'S THAT! A BOY... AND A WILD BOAR IS CHARGING DOWN UPON HIM!







YOU HAVE SAVED MY LIFE! I AM BRUCE, BROTHER OF GREY STEEL! WHAT ARE YOU CALLED?

LANCE! I HAVE HEARD MUCH OF YOUR BROTHER! DO YOU THINK I COULD MEET HIM?



THIS IS WHERE WE LIVE! THAT IS MY BROTHER WAVING!

BACK SO SOON, BRUCE? WHO IS YOUR FRIEND?



HE SAVED MY LIFE! A WILD BOAR WOULD HAVE KILLED ME, BUT WITH ONE ARROW HE SLEW THE VICIOUS BEAST!

BRUCE IS VERY DEAR TO ME, BOY! I WOULD LIKE YOU TO ACCEPT SOME GOLD COINS! I KNOW THEY ARE GOOD, FOR THEY BELONGED TO THE KING!

I AM PRINCE LANCE, SON OF THE KING! I CAME TO SEE IF YOU WOULD AGREE TO FIGHT FOR OUR COUNTRY IF GRANTED A PARDON!

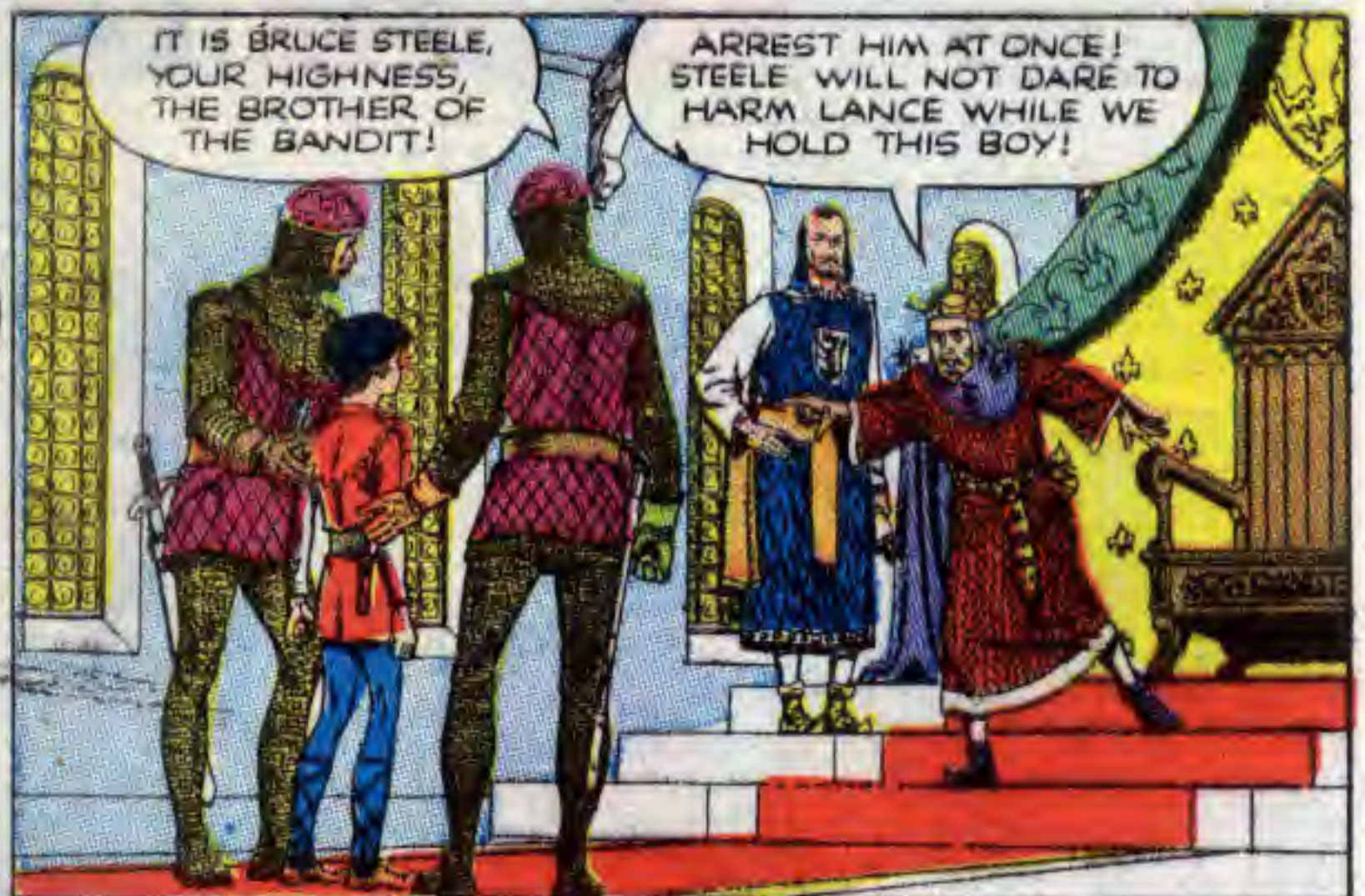
I DID NOT SLAY YOUR UNCLE! YOUR FATHER'S MEN DROVE ME TO THIS FOREST! WE MUST STEAL TO LIVE, BUT WE HAVE NEVER KILLED!



















the End



# Fun Page

1 THERE ARE A NUMBER OF STRANGE THINGS GOING ON, AS THE SERVANTS AT 'CASTLE MIXUP' GET EVERYTHING READY FOR THE PRINCE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY! SEE HOW MANY **YOU** CAN FIND! 15 IS GOOD; 20 IS EXCELLENT; 25 OR MORE, SUPERIOR!



2 THE KING SENT HIS PRIME MINISTER 50 MILES AWAY TO GET A BIRTHDAY PRESENT THAT THE PRINCE **ESPECIALLY** WANTED! IF YOU **BLACK** IN THE DOTTED LINES WITH A PENCIL, YOU'LL SEE WHAT IT IS!



4 AND HERE ARE THE PRINCE'S BIRTHDAY PRESENTS! LOOK CAREFULLY AND SEE HOW MANY YOU CAN FIND THAT BEGIN WITH THE LETTER **'C'**!

3 RETURNING TO THE CASTLE, THE PRIME MINISTER LOSES HIS MAP, AND HAS TO FIND HIS WAY BACK THROUGH UNKNOWN COUNTRY WITHOUT BEING CAUGHT BY THE ROBBER BARON, WHO IS LYING IN WAIT FOR HIM! CAN YOU GET HIM BACK SAFELY?



1 THERE ARE JUST 32 MISTAKES! 2 IT'S A PUPPY, AND HIS NAME IS ROVER! 3 KEEP AT IT, AND YOU'LL GET BACK SAFELY! 4 IF YOU LOOK VERY HARD, YOU'LL FIND 27 PRESENTS THAT BEGIN WITH A "C"!



